

THE New and better ART OF AGRICULTURE.

This Humble and Faithful MEMORIAL I do most Humbly and Faithfully Dedicate and Present

TO His most sacred Majesty *CHARLES* the Second, King of *England*, &c. To his Royal Consort Queen *KATHERINE*. To their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Dutchess of *Tork*. To all the *Nobility*, *Knights*, and *Grand Gentry*. To the most Reverend, and Right Reverend the Lord *Bishops*, and all the Inferior *Clergy* of *England*, &c.

To the Lord Mayor and the Aldermen, and the Common-Council of the City of *London*. To all the Merchants and Grand Citizens of the same, and of all other Cities and Towns Corporate in *England*, &c. And to all others whatsoever that shall think fit to be concerned therein any way — for it doth, or may concern any or every Person, either upon the general or particular Account.

England and *Wales* and the Limits of *Berwick upon Tweed*, is North and South about 320 Miles upon the vulgar Account, and generally every such Mile is about a Mile and a half of measured Miles; and from East to West about as much, and so may reasonably be allowed and accounted to be 400 measured Miles square (that is Land and Sea together) but by reason that the Form, as to the Land only, is very irregular, it may be reasonable to take off for the Sea three eight Parts, though that be manifestly too much.

Now where the Form is regular, and all Land, 400 measured Miles square would contain 160000 such measured Miles singly square; but cutting off three all Eights, or 60000 measured Miles singly square, there remains really to be accounted of 100000 such singly square measured Miles.

One measured Mile singly square, contains 640 Statute-Acres, though there were no Hills, but all a Flat, in all 64000000 of Statute-Acres. — I allow or count that at least the one eighth part of this (generally) is Plowed and sowed every year (besides all that is laid every year Fallow) that is 8000000 of Acres.

In the now common way (one with the other) they allow at least two Bushels and a half for the Seed for one Statute-Acre, one sort of Corn and Grain with the other; and so 20000000 Bushels, or 2500000 Quarters is to be accounted one years Seed.

In my way I allow at most but half a Bushel for one Statute-Acre, which is but the fifth part of their allowance; that is 5000000 Quarters; that is, 2000000 of Quarters less than what is sowed in the common way.

Wheat is commonly (one time and place with the other, at, at least 30 s. per Quarter, Rye at 24 s. Barly at 20 s. and Oats at 12 s. so all accounted together, comes to above 20 s. a Quarter, and 2000000 of Quarters to 2000000 l. which is too much to be cast away every year, for two Quarters is more than enough to support one Person all the year with Bread and Drink, and so to support every year 1000000 Persons, Men, Women, and Children.

When the Husbandman hath twelve times his Seed again, or more, say 32 Bushels or 4 Quarters, he counts himself in a good prospering way; and when it is generally so, it is a plentiful year, and 4 Quarters may be so worth 4 l. and when every Acre, one with the other in *England*, &c. yields 4 l. that is for 8000000 Acres 32000000 l. for an Increase of the Stock, or Wealth of the Kingdom in this Part, that is by Tillage only.

In my way (though at double Charge to the common way, as by a strange mistake it is accounted) I have sufficient cause to hope, and in all Submission to Gods Will to be certain that every Acre, one with the other, shall yield 10 l. and clear 4 l. So that if 8000000 of Acres were Ploughed and Sowed my way, the Crops (according to but the former account) would be worth 80000000, and the Tythes 8000000, and the 4 l. per Acre cleared, amounts to 3200000 l. That is the Kingdom would be enriched 24000000 ever year more than in the common way.

But I expect to have it objected, that if my way was generally used upon 8000000 of Acres, it would be too great Cheapness and Plenty, which (though it be hard that men should repine at Plenty, which is a Blessing from God) may be thus prevented — by Tilling less — say by 3200000 of the 8000000 of Acres aforesaid, and laying down 4800000 Acres. — And thus the Ballance between the common way and mine, would be about even, and the Kingdom as much enriched, as now it may be judged to be, as aforesaid, and the Tythes as much, only not so much saved out of the Seed, though as much proportionably.

Note, That if there were found or made Manure enough (competently) for 8000000 of Acres before, when 4800000 Acres shall be laid down for other uses, and consequently more Cattel of all sorts, and so more Manure; and but 3200000 Acres in Tillage to be there-with enriched, the Land must necessarily

be made more Fertile, and productive of better Crops than formerly.

If it be objected, That if 4800000 Acres be taken from Tillage, and laid down for other uses, it will be long, (if ever, the more barren part of it especially) before it can be brought to produce good Grass for Pasturage or Mowing Grounds — To this I truly Answer, That I do certainly know how to make it bear indifferent good Grass the very first Year, and better and more yearly for many Years after.

If it be objected, That Tillage employs more Hands than other sorts of Husbandry: And that by so lessening the Tillage, great Numbers of the poorer sort will be undone for want of Work — To this I answer faithfully and understandingly, That I know divers honest, beneficial, and not enslaving ways, which if prosecuted (as I could demonstrate in act, were I in Stock sufficient) may set not only all the Poor in *England*, but five times more, if we had them to work all the Year.

All those that out of a Generous and Noble Love to, and Zeal for the Publick Good, shall freely Contribute what they please, more or less, (I need not say any more, but that Vertuous Deeds are their own most proper Reward) and he that loves the publick good, deserves Love, Honour and Thanks from all; and in this case from me peculiarly.

And for those that shall advance any thing more or less, for obtaining a proportionable Profit to themselves; this business in my Management, shall and will afford to them 20 l. for each 100 l. p. annum for so many Years as shall be agreed on, and their Money again at the end of those Years.

Those three great Difficulties (which I hope) this Paper rightly considered will take off, are these.

First, Though I mean most Faithfully, I cannot give such Security as is usually expected in Money matters; my own Faith as a Christian, and Honour as a Gentle man, together with my own Bond or Judgment is all I offer, or that the Advancer can reasonably demand or expect, all things considered.

Secondly, Some Persons may perhaps have an unkind suspicion, that I will not put the Money, to be thus obtained, to this use intended — But he that in any good measure understands that I shall have a much more great and certain advantage, by pursuing this course (having fit encouragement) than by any other that can be taken, will easily believe; that Self-Interest will deny that.

Thirdly, Whether in my way there may be produced 10 l. per Acre, per annum, one with the other — The answer and demonstration of this you shall be fully satisfied in, when you shall come and fairly discourse it with me; for it would be too long and inconvenient to enlarge upon that here; and then you will find it to be a most Evident Truth — And whoever gets over these three first Stiles, hath no cause of any other Doubt or Objection.

My now Lodging is in *White-Friars* at Mr. *Standen's* House next Door to the *Golden Bottle*.

Where whosoever (having read this Paper, and rightly considered it) shall incline to be concerned in any way, may find me, or by leaving a Note sealed for me, appointing some certain time and place, I shall meet accordingly to such just Directions — For it would be equal to *Hercules* his Labours, for me, among such vast Numbers and various Humours, to seek and find, fit, and willing Persons to be concerned with me in this great business.

If any Pious, Generous Person should happen to fall sick before he hath had time fully and effectually to consider of this Paper and its Contents, in case he should dye, may do an Excellent and Honourable Work, to appoint in their Wills expressly — So that such Legacy may be sure to come to my Hands, and be rightly and duly paid me, without delay, suit or trouble, which the very Nature of this business is against — such Legacy, be it more or less, will tend to the advancing this Business to its proper height and best Perfection.

Bepleased to understand these Truths, that the Proposer is a Gentleman, and was a Col. of Horse in his late Majesties Armies; Hath been several times undone by, or for his Fidelity, having lost a considerable Estate he had in Possession, and a greater he had Right to; hath served and suffered about forty three Years, and not yet effectually relieved, which is the cause he wants Stock to carry on this great and good Work without help; And therefore takes this course to obtain a considerable Stock, and all that shall Contribute to it any way, shall thereby Advance a publick good, Augment (if they engage in it that way) their own Intrests or Estates, and raise a deep Sufferer and his Family out of his undeserved Ruins — which even alone is a Noble act, but altogether much more.

Crispy Dymoke